



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

LOCAL MEETINGS AND OTHER NOTICES.

TREASURER OF THE AMERICAN FOLK-LORE SOCIETY. From the year 1892, John H. Hinton, M. D., has acted as Treasurer. At first accepting the position only for a single year, Dr. Hinton finally consented to accept an election for a term of five years, and again a reëlection to the position. In this office his exactness and repute for sagacity have been of great and continued service to the Society, of which he has, by election of the Council, been made an honorary Life Member. Since the Annual Meeting in December, Dr. Hinton has felt that the state of his health made it advisable for him to retrench his duties, and has requested that he be relieved of further responsibility. Accordingly, Mr. Eliot Remick, the Treasurer of the Boston Branch, has been asked by the Council to serve in the same capacity, and has consented to do so. Mr. Remick will therefore act as Treasurer during the current year. His address is 300 Marlboro Street, Boston, Mass.

The following are regular monthly meetings of the American Folk-Lore Society, Boston and Cambridge Branches, held since the last report:—

Boston, Friday, December 9, 8 P. M. The Branch met at the house of Mrs. H. E. Raymond, 16 Exeter Street. Professor Putnam introduced Miss Emily Hollowell, who gave a brief account of certain folk-songs collected by herself from negroes of Alabama in the neighborhood of Calhoun. Miss Hollowell, assisted by Mrs. McAdoo, sang a number of these songs, which were interesting as folk-lore and pleasing as music.

Tuesday, January 17, 8 P. M. The Branch met at the house of Mrs. J. A. Remick, 300 Marlboro Street. In the absence of the President, Mr. W. W. Newell introduced the speaker, Mr. V. Stéfansson of Iceland, now Hemenway Fellow in Anthropology at Harvard, who spoke on "The Animal Folk-Lore of Iceland." Mr. Stéfansson began with an exceedingly clear account of the history and present condition of Iceland and its people. In the realm of folk-lore account was given of the part played by the bear, the bull, snipe, plover, the raven, the kite, the eagle, and many dwellers in the water, including the silver mullet and whale. Mr. Stéfansson related a number of entertaining myths, and at the close of his address showed several ancient articles of dress and household adornment, and photographs of Iceland scenery.

Tuesday, February 28, 8 P. M. The Branch met at the house of Mr. and Mrs. William G. Preston, 1063 Beacon Street. In the absence of Professor Putnam, Mr. Newell introduced Dr. Arthur W. Ryder of Harvard University, whose subject was "Sanskrit Fables and Epigrams." Dr. Ryder's paper consisted largely of original renderings, in verse, from several works.

In many of these ancient fables the view-point is notably like that of the moderns, and the wit of the fables has a caustic quality applicable to the present time. A discussion followed the paper.

Helen Leah Reed, Secretary.

CAMBRIDGE, *November 22, 1904.* The Branch met at the house of Miss Batchelder, 28 Quincy Street. Dr. George N. Chase of Harvard University treated "Greek Religion in the Light of Recent Discoveries in Crete." Since 1900, under Prince George, the Greek government has made explorations possible on the same terms as in Greece itself. Crete, accordingly, has been the ground of archæological exploration, which has been fruitful of discoveries. The customs, costumes, houses, and even diet of the Mycænæan age, a period prior to the Hellenic, have been brought to light. Among Americans occupied in this manner, the speaker mentioned an expedition from the University of Pennsylvania, and Miss Boyd and Mr. Evans. Mention was made of the recently discovered palaces and palace-shrines, dating between 2000 and 1000 B. C., which show the king evidently as father of his people and legate of the gods; of doll-like images representing different cults, and exhibiting the gods in human form; of a cult of the dead shown by tombs and rings, etc.

December 13, 1904. The Branch met with Miss Bumstead, 12 Berkeley Street. Dr. A. W. Ryder was the speaker of the evening, his subject being "Sanskrit Fables and Epigrams." His translations elicited discussion from guests, who found in the early Hindu lore much which reminded them of European equivalents.

Constance G. Alexander, Secretary.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

BOOKS.

THE OLD FARMER AND HIS ALMANAC. Being some observations of life and manners in New England a hundred years ago suggested by reading the earlier numbers of Mr. Robert B. Thomas's Farmer's Almanac. Together with extracts curious, instructive, and entertaining, as well as a variety of miscellaneous matter. By GEORGE LYMAN KITTREDGE. Boston, Mass.: William Ware & Co. 1904. Pp. xiv, 403.

It opportunely happened that in the year of publication, the distinguished writer of this volume served as President of the American Folk-Lore Society. The book, which only in a small proportion is concerned with folk-lore proper, contains an infinity of information in regard to the changes of New England life and manners illustrated in the Almanac, which from the date of its first appearance for 1793 has continued its annual issue. Thomas (1766-1846) was brought up in the North Parish of Shrewsbury, Mass.; it illustrates the frequent changes in New England local topography, that the district he lived in was successively transferred to four different towns. He began life as a schoolmaster, and set up in his native place as a bookbinder, obtaining work from publishers in Boston, whither he migrated in 1792; having already the ambition to prepare an almanac of his own, he entered a mathematical school taught by Osgood Carleton, himself the author of an almanac. At this point may be noted